

Subject: Please Oppose S.B. 984, S.B. 949, and the Proposed ECS Freeze

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Dear Co-Chairs Sanchez and McCrory, Vice Chairs Barry and Daugherty Abrams, and members of the New Haven Delegation,

I write as a New Haven resident and educator to ask you to oppose S.B. 984, S.B. 949, and the Proposed ECS Freeze, as they threaten to draw resources away from the already-under resourced traditional public school system on which our children and families depend.

Under SB 948 as highlighted on page 5 lines 126-144, pages 5-6 lines 145-158 and page 30 lines 957-972; privately-run charter schools are given equal footing in terms of alliance allocations to their public school counterparts. This will in effect drain dollars away from our most vulnerable students and their future upon which their public education rests.

SP 949 proposes a weighted student funding model which again, can be detrimental to students' educational learning conditions. WSF has been proposed and failed in many places. In New Haven we fought against the change to the funding model years ago when WSF was proposed. I ask that you keep in mind the extended impact a model like this can make and in particular in districts like the one in which I live and teach.

Last, the bill SB 886 proposes to freeze ECS funding which will create a deficit of over \$9 million dollars for the district in which I live and teach. I hope you consider and support the rejection of this bill as outlined by others such as New Haven Public Schools, the Superintendents of Connecticut's Urban and Alliance Districts and the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents.

Thank you for taking action to help protect public education in our state.

Sincerely,

Melody Gallagher, New Haven Resident and NHPS teacher

